

To whom it may concern,

My partner and I will be one of the hundred (?) families to be effected by these cuts to the tune of about £3500 per year. I earn about £50,000 and my partner £30,000 per year. She currently works three days a week whilst our child is in nursery. Our son is aged two years and we would have been eligible for these benefits next year – just when these cuts are due to come in. My objection is that this is yet another squeeze on the middle earners on top of pay freezes and losses in benefits / tax exemptions such as critical illness cover and mortgage tax relief. Meanwhile GST has been raised to 5%. We both work hard and are finding our moderate resources further stretched. Will one of us have to give up work or shall we consider moving and taking our skills to England ? These are all options for consideration when making our own family budget. We appreciate the need for cuts and I am seeing them in my own workplace (although I believe the long term costs to the island may be far greater), however, this one appears to have happened quickly without the appropriate testing and may have some far reaching consequences that have not been fully considered.

Thanks